


**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**



Senior Deputy Director
for Health Care Finance

**Medical Assistance Program
Transmittal No: 03-20**

TO: All District of Columbia Dental Providers

FROM:  Wanda R. Tucker
Interim Senior Deputy Director
Medical Assistance Administration

DATE: JUN 25 2003

SUBJECT: Transition of D.C. Specific Local Codes to HIPAA Compliant Codes

The Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) is required to achieve compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's (HIPAA) mandated transaction standards, code sets and identifiers by October 16, 2003.

MAA has devised many local codes for the District's Dental providers to accommodate special needs and circumstances; however, the HIPAA transactions, code sets and identifiers rules do not permit the use of local code values after October 16, 2003. MAA has cross-walked all active Dental local codes to standard codes.

To assist the District's Medicaid Dental providers with the transition to standard codes, MAA has attached an Addendum to the Dental Provider billing manual that provides a cross-walk between the current local codes and standard codes and changes to the Dental Provider billing manual. Additionally, the proposed transition from local codes to standard codes will not change the current reimbursement payment(s) for the District Medicaid Dental providers.

Please note that, effective July 31, 2003 MAA will discontinue the use of current local codes for the Dental providers. Service claims submitted by the District of Columbia dental providers on or after August 1, 2003 should only use the standard codes.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this transmittal, please call MAA's Fiscal Agent, ACS State Healthcare's Provider Relations Inquiry Desk on (866) 752-9233.

Attachment: Local Code Crosswalk Addendum and Billing Manual Revision(s) -- Dental Providers